

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ROME 16165 071111Z

15

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 /053 W

----- 043015

O R 071037Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4048

INFO DIA WASHDC

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 16165

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, IT

SUBJECT: DC CONCLAVE AVOIDS RUPTURE ON ISSUE OF CONGRESS DATE

REF: (A) ROME 16140; (B) ROME 15699

SUMMARY: CONSULTATIVE "FIRESIDE CHAT" OF TOP DC LEADERS WITH PARTY SECRETARY ZACCAGNINI NOVEMBER 6 RESULTED IN COMPROMISE FAVORABLE TO DC CENTRIST MAJORITY. ALTHOUGH MEETING RESULTS BEING CLOSELY HELD, CONSENSUS APPARENTLY REACHED TO SET CONGRESS DATE AT NATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD BEFORE END OF NOVEMBER. CONGRESS NOW SEEMS LIKELY TO TAKE PLACE IN FEBRUARY - EARLIER THAN SPRING TIMING FAVORED BY ZACCAGNINI, BUT SOMEWHAT LATER THAN JANUARY CONVOCAION DEMANDED BY FANFANI. IF COMPROMISE UNDERSTANDING HOLDS UP, ZACCAGNINI LIKELY TO STAY ON UNTIL CONGRESS. RESULTS OF CONCLAVE AVERT THREAT TO MORO GOVERNMENT WHICH OPEN RUPTURE BETWEEN ZACCAGNINI SUPPORTERS AND DC CENTER-RIGHT WOULD HAVE PRODUCED. END SUMMARY.

1. SIXTEEN CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY LEADERS INCLUDING MORO, DONAT-CATTIN, DE MITA, PARLIAMENTARY GROUP LEADERS BARTOLOMEI AND PICCOLI, FOUR FORMER PARTY SECRETARIES (INCLUDING FORLANI), AND FOUR FORMER PREMIERS (INCLUDING

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ROME 16165 071111Z

COLOMBO AND FANFANI), MET NOVEMBER 6 FOR WHAT ZACCAGNINI

TERMED A "FIRESIDE CHAT" ON MAJOR ISSUES FACING THE PARTY.
RUMOR AND ANDREOTTI WERE OUT OF ROME AND WERE REPRESENTED

BY GULLOTTI AND EVANGELISTI RESPECTIVELY. SEVEN-HOUR
CONSULTATIVE MEETING DEVOTED PRIMARILY TO QUESTION OF HOW
SOON TO CONVOKE PARTY CONGRESS - A MAJOR BONE OF CON-
TENTION BETWEEN THE PARTY LEFT AND RIGHT (REF. B).

2. AVAILABLE INFORMATION INDICATES THAT MEETING PRODUCED
TENTATIVE COMPROMISE WHICH AVOIDED AN OPEN RUPTURE BETWEEN
THE ZACCAGNINI FORCES AND THE CENTRIST, MAJORITY (DOROTEO),
ANDREOTTI AND FANFANI-FORLANI FACTIONS. BASIS OF COMPROMISE
WAS AGREEMENT TO SET DATE FOR PARTY CONGRESS AT A NATIONAL
COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD WITHIN LAST TEN DAYS OF THIS
MONTH.

3. PRESS LEAKS INDICATE FANFANI MADE STRONG PITCH FOR HOLDING
CONGRESS IN JANUARY, BEFORE SCHEDULED PSI CONGRESS IN EARLY
FEBRUARY. ZACCAGNINI FORCES HAVE URGED THAT PREPARATIONS
NOT BE RUSHED AND THAT THE CONGRESS BE HELD IN THE SPRING.
ALTHOUGH FIRM DECISION MUST NOW AWAIT NATIONAL COUNCIL
MEETING, INDICATIONS POINT TO A CONGRESS SOMETIME IN
FEBRUARY. THIS TIMING WOULD PROBABLY SATISFY PARTY
MODERATES WHO ARE ANXIOUS THAT THE DC DEVELOP A CLEAR,
POLICY LINE (ESPECIALLY VIS-A-VIS THE PCI) PRIOR TO THE IMPORT-
ANT LOCAL ELECTIONS SCHEDULED FOR LATE SPRING AND BEFORE THE
ZACCAGNINI FORCES CAN FURTHER CONSOLIDATE THEIR HOLD
ON THE PARTY APPARATUS.

4. IF COMPROMISE REACHED AT NOVEMBER 6 CONCLAVE HOLDS,
ZACCAGNINI STANDS GOOD CHANCE OF STAYING ON UNTIL CONGRESS.
IMMEDIATE THREAT TO MORO GOVERNMENT WHICH INTERNAL DC
RUPTURE WOULD HAVE PRODUCED HAS BEEN AVERTED.CALINGAERT

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PARTY STRENGTH, POLITICAL PARTIES, POLITICAL SITUATION, PARTY ALLIANCE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 NOV 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975ROME16165
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750387-0653
From: ROME
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751163/aaaacelf.tel
Line Count: 94
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 ROME 16140, 75 ROME 15699
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <04 JUN 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <05 JUN 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DC CONCLAVE AVOIDS RUPTURE ON ISSUE OF CONGRESS DATE
TAGS: PINT, IT, CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006